

Tedford P. Lewis

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FEB 03 2000

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EIS001182

February 2, 2000

In Re:

Hearing at the St. Louis Convention Center
Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Yucca Mountain
January 20, 2000U. S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C.

by FAX 800-967-0739

I wish to put in writing the oral testimony given at the above referenced hearing:

1 The gentleman from our local electric utility, Ameren/ULI, has stated that the utilities producing the nuclear waste are collecting through a one mil per KWH the funds to pay for the disposal of the waste generated in the seventy two commercial nuclear waste sites, a sum now equal to some sixteen billion dollars. We have been informed that the anticipated cost for the total project will amount to some thirty billion dollars. I am not a high energy physicist, and my mathematical comprehension may be a bit on the slow side, but that sounds like a little more than half the total presently anticipated costs. It might be added that I have never seen a Federal estimate that was on the low side---How much is to be left to the public, through its Federal Government, to pay for the cost of this disposal program?

2 What consideration has been given to the impact of the proposed program on the sacred sites of Native Americans?

Why is it that the rights of the First Nations people must consistently be ignored for the benefit and shame of those who played the same role as those who slaughtered millions of Jews in Europe, or enslaved the native people of Africa?

3 What consideration is being given to the environmental impact on the native grasses and sage brush of the surrounding desert, already suffering from an invasion of Cheat Grass?

What consideration has been given to the impact on other native flora of the area?

4 What consideration has been given to the impact on desert fauna, reptiles, insects and spiders?

5 What thought has been given to the realistic advantage of ceasing the process of creating more and more nuclear waste? Of making the problem even greater?

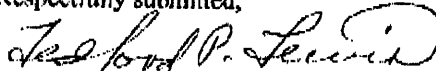
6... Why should the utilities not be made responsible for disposal of the waste on site?

7 What is gained by subjecting so many millions of people to the potential hazards of shipping this material through cities and countryside?

8 Perhaps some of these questions might have been answered had the Impact Statements been delivered in timely manner to permit the public to see and read them prior to hearings: But, what trust can the public have with an agency handling massive amounts of waste--hazardous waste--if it can not get its mail to the post office?

6 cont. Please, "Leave it be" where it is!

Respectfully submitted,


 Tedford P. Lewis